

FREIGHT MOBILITY STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

**April 2, 2004
Tacoma, Washington**

Board members present were Chairman Dan O'Neal, Mr. Don Lemmons, Mr. Dick Marzano, Mr. Andrew Johnsen, Mr. Jim Toomey, Mr. Ross Kelley and Ms. Carol Moser.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Chairman Dan O'Neal welcomed all to the meeting.

MINUTES: Ms. Carol Moser *moved, and Mr. Jim Toomey seconded to approve the January 16, 2004 meeting minutes.*

MOTION CARRIED

FMSIB BUDGET: Director Schmidt reviewed the budgets.

DIRECTORS REPORT: Director Schmidt reported on the recently completed legislative session and the efforts of FMSIB partners who worked for freight project funding in the Supplemental Budget and the bill signing where project partners attended the event. Meetings with Theo Yu, from the Office of Financial Management and the FAST partners were discussed. The importance of freight projects being reflected in regional plans was also discussed. The FAST request to Congress was by project this year rather than the umbrella FAST request as in years past in the hope that more funding would be realized.

A series of meetings with the D Street partners has resulted in a verbal agreement to move the project as fast as possible with Sound Transit providing any necessary short term funding until the 2005-07 budget releases targeted state funds for the project.

The Freight Board received a 100 percent clean audit on its past budget and a draft 2005-07 strategic plan has been written as the first task in developing the new budget. The Benchmark process required some refocusing which the Director and Mr. Cliff Benson discussed with the UW researchers. The Center for Excellence was also refocused as a Consortium.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Mr. Benson provided a written report on Short Sea Shipping. Mr Don Lemmons indicated that the Truckers were interested in pursuing the concept. A discussion followed.

Mr. Andrew Johnsen explained that the Center for Excellence was now evolving into a consortium that would be an umbrella organization pulling together a number of efforts that are already underway. A draft of the proposal was discussed. He also compared the various TEA-21 bills being considered by Congress and the Governor's plan to initiate a steering

committee to determine Washington's priorities when a bill emerges and how FMSIB could provide input.

Mr. Ross Heller briefed the Board on the Port of Tacoma Road/ Pacific Highway South project recently funded by the legislature.

The Board discussed authorization of the projects recently funded by the legislature. Since two of the Board members had an interest in the outcome of specific projects on the list, the vote was divided into two phases.

Mr. Ross Kelley moved and Ms. Carol Moser seconded that the Board authorize the Ainsworth project in Pasco, the alternate truck route in Colville, the Piert Rd. project in Benton County and the S. 228th St. project in Kent.

MOTION PASSED. Mr. Jim Toomey abstained from the vote.

Mr. Don Lemmons moved and Mr. Jim Toomey seconded that the Board authorize the Seattle ITS project, the Grain Terminal track improvements in Kalama, the Bigelow Gulch project in Spokane, the Pacific Hwy/Port of Tacoma Rd project in Fife and the right-of-way purchase in Granite Falls

MOTION PASSED. Mr. Ross Kelley abstained from the vote.

Ms. Gloria Skinner, Mark Bozanich and Dave Bushnell from WSDOT and Dave Whitcher, Don Zimmer and Walt Olsen from CRAB presented the results of the 2004 Freight and Goods data analysis. While the state and counties have complementary mechanisms to measure freight on their routes, cities still lack the ability to provide their data. A discussion of the data presented and changes since 2002 followed.

Ms. Moser moved and Mr. Kelley seconded to approve the 2004 FCTS based upon the data as presented. Mr. Dan O'Neal amended the motion to use the higher county level where state routes intersected higher volume county roads.

MOTION PASSED

Christine Smith from Pierce County explained the need to correct the project total adopted by the board for project #53 - the Canyon Rd. Northerly extension. The project inadvertently included the cost for a previously approved segment and needed to reduce the cost to the actual amount for the new segment to avoid a double count. A discussion followed.

Mr. Toomey moved and Mr. Dick Marzano seconded to lower the total project cost but retain the dollar amount committed and change the percentage to reflect the dollar amount.

MOTION PASSED

Mr. Mark Hallenbeck from the University of Washington provided an update on the Benchmark project. The Board discussed the information presented and Mr. Hallenbeck indicated that a draft final report would be available in about a month

The Director discussed the draft budget strategic plan, which must go to the Office of Financial Management by May 1st including the suggestions made by various board members. The Board discussed various suggestions made to amend the strategic plan and how to deal with WSDOT projects since the current legislative budget process separates state and local projects for funding.

Mr. Kelley moved and Mr. Lemmons seconded to adopt the strategic plan as amended.
MOTION PASSED

The Director announced that the Governor has reappointed Dick Marzano, Andrew Johnsen and Don Lemmons to new four-year terms on the Board. Ms. Moser will be leaving the Board at the end of June with acceptance of a new full-time position in the private sector.

Ms. Moser moved and Mr. Lemmons seconded that the next meeting be held in Yakima on June 11, 2004.
MOTION PASSED

Meeting adjourned 2:37 PM

FUTURE MEETING: Ms. Moser moved and Mr. Lemmons & Mr. Kelley both seconded the motion that the next FMSIB meeting be held on June 11, 2004 in Yakima, WA.
MOTION CARRIED

MEETING ADJOURNED 2:37 PM.



A. DANIEL O'NEAL, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:



KAREN SCHMIDT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR